

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY L:SMSCHWEBEL;L/UNA:RSTOWE

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S/S:P.JOHNSON

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 177919 TOSEC 080107

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.), UN, IS, PFOR

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM - ISRAELI UNGA SUSPENSION:

US OPTIONS

(S/S NO. 7515314)

REF: STATE STATE 177722 (TOSEC 080087)

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM LEIGH

1. IN RESPECT OF REFTTEL, WHICH DID NOT INCLUDE THE LEGAL ADVISER'S VIEWS, MAY I RECOMMEND OPTION (A), COMBINED WITH ELEMENTS OF OPTION (D), RATHER THAN OPTION (C). BECAUSE MIDEAST SETTLEMENT WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY HAVE A VITAL UN COMPONENT WHICH ISRAEL WILL NOT ACCEPT IF IT IS EXCLUDED FROM UN, I THINK IT IMPERATIVE THAT WE EXERT MAXIMUM PRESSURE TO DETER OR RESPOND TO ITS EXCLUSION.

2. I BELIEVE PREFERRED COURSE IS FOR USG TO MAKE KNOWN WELL IN ADVANCE OF ANY SUSPENSION VOTE THAT, IF ISRAEL IS UNLAWFULLY SUSPENDED, USG WILL WALK OUT OF UNGA PLENARY AND THE UNGA COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE FROM WHICH ISRAEL IS EXCLUDED. IN SO DOING, WE WOULD NOT STATE FOR HOW LONG WE

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WOULD STAY OUT OR UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS WE WOULD RETURN.

3. I RECOMMEND TOO THAT WE MAKE IT KNOWN THE USG WOULD SELECTIVELY ELIMINATE VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN VOLUNTARY FUNDS, SUCH AS UNDP, WHICH ARE NOT OF IMMEDIATE HUMANITARIAN CONCERN. THIS CONCEIVABLY MIGHT ALSO LEAD SOME NON-ARAB MEMBERS OF THIRD WORLD WHO ARE THE BENEFICIARIES OF THESE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THINK TWICE BEFORE VOTING TO EXCLUDE ISRAEL. I JOIN AMBASSADOR BUFFUM IN FAVORING ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT FOR PAYMENT OF LEGALLY BINDING UN ASSESSMENTS.

4. MY DOUBT ABOUT OPTION (C) IS THAT, TO UN MEMBERS, US PUBLIC AND CONGRESS, PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS OF UNGA ON SOME BUT NOT ALL SUBJECTS WOULD APPEAR TO BE A TOKEN REACTION NOT PROPORTIONATE TO POLITICAL AND LEGAL GRAVITY OF ISRAEL'S ARBITRARY EXCLUSION. WE WOULD TEND TO BE DRAWN INTO PARTICIPATION IN LARGE NUMBER OF ISSUES, RENDERING OUR TOKEN PROTEST THE MORE TRANSPARENT. SUCH ACTION WOULD NOT APPEASE DOMESTIC AND CONGRESSIONAL OPINION WHICH, UNAPPEASED, MAY CONSTRICT OUR OPTIONS MORE THAN OPTION (A) WOULD. MOREOVER, OPTION (A) WOULD NOT COMMIT US TO REMAINING OUT UNTIL ISRAEL'S RETURN. PENDING RETURN, WE WOULD CONTINUE TO TAKE PART IN SC AND OTHER UN ORGANS THAT ARE NOT COMPOSED OF WHOLE MEMBERSHIP, E.G., ECOSOC OR FROM WHICH ISRAEL NOT EXCLUDED, E.G., LOS CONFERENCE.

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